Ptilodon capucina Fabricius Coxcomb Prominent - flew off as the water rose; I later found this moth floating dead on the water's surface.

Acronicta rumicis L. Knot Grass – stayed stationary as the water level rose and only moved when partially submerged then swam across the surface of the water but not as rapidly nor as "purposefully" as *nickerlii*. Later found dying half-submerged.

Xestia c-nigrum L. Setaceous Hebrew Character – flew off as the water rose; later found floating on the water's surface.

Abrostola tripartita Hufnagel The Spectacle – flew off as the water rose.

Luperina nickerlii is able to swim rapidly in a straight line on the surface of the water and readily crawls below the water surface; submersion for up to one hour appeared to cause no harm to any individual. In some cases a film of air forms on the surface of the abdomen. It may be thought that this ability to move on and under water is an adaptation to occasional submergence by high tides, but the same ability to cope with water appears to be found in *Luperina testacea*, which is typically a species of grassy areas (often on the coast, but also inland), although this species is more flighty and apparently less proficient at swimming. None of the other species in this small sample moved below the surface of the water; although the Knot Grass swam across the water, the movement was hesitant and clumsy and gave no indication that the moth was accustomed to water; three of the species (Coxcomb Prominent, Knot Grass and Setaceous Hebrew Character) appeared to be harmed by water.— Adrian Spalding, Tremayne Farm Cottage, Praze-an-Beeble, Camborne, Cornwall. TR14 9PH.

Simulium (_Nevermannia_) _cryophilum_ (Rubtsov) (Dip.: Simuliidae) discovered at high tide mark in Fife

Prospecting for blackflies (Diptera: Simuliidae) in the Scottish Kingdom of Fife during May 2006, small burns were examined for the presence of simuliid larvae and pupa. Ten kilometres south-east of St Andrews, Cambo Burn passes through the woodland of Cambo House and out into the sea (O. S. grid reference NO 608117). On 17.v.2006, nine *Simulium cryophilum* larvae along with two pupal cases of the *Simulium ornatum* group were collected from vegetation lying in the stream; accessed near the shore but still under the canopy of the trees. After the vegetation had been cleared of simuliids, I followed the burn out onto the beach. Wondering whether larvae would venture this far I spotted a dark speck atop a stone exposed above the water level. Closer examination revealed a pupa of *S. cryophilum* (**Fig. 1A**). The site was 92 metres from the initial collection point and in line with the high tide mark indicated by the driftwood and other flotsam and jetsam littering the shore (**Fig. 1B**). Examining other stones, a single larva of indeterminate species was found along with a *S. cryophilum* pupal case, the latter signifying successful emergence of an adult. Blackflies inhabit freshwater lotic environments and are not associated with brackish waters of marshes and coastal estuaries. Simuliids appear intolerant of

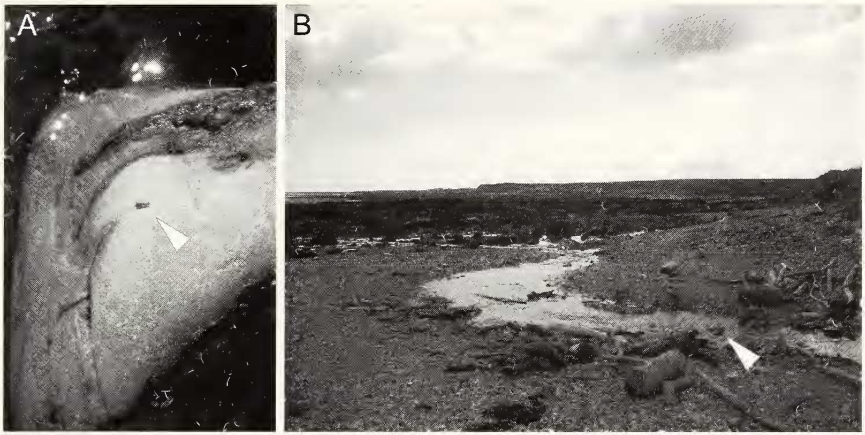

Figure 1. (A) *Simulium cryophilum* pupa on exposed stone indicated by white arrow. (B) Cambo Burn shore collection site of *S. cryophilum* indicated by white arrow.

saline habitats with the exception of *S. aureum* group species which are seen distributed in sea coast areas and have been found where the stream debouche onto the beach just above the high tide mark; a phenomenon now illustrated by *S. cryophilum*.— JOHN C. DAY, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology-Oxford, Mansfield Road, Oxford, OX1 3SR (E-mail: jcda@ceh.ac.uk).

Is *Spatalistis bifasciana* (Hb.) (Lep.: Tortricidae) associated with Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*?

On 29 September 2005, MP and Tony Davis visited Beckley Woods in East Sussex in an attempt to locate larvae of the Olive Crescent *Trisateles emortualis*. Old withered and brown leaves of oak *Quercus* spp. and Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa* hanging from trees were particularly targeted for these searches. In one partly shady patch, several clumps of fairly tightly aggregated withered brown leaves of Sweet Chestnut were found on small branches that had fallen earlier in the year, these branches being caught in the branches of other trees just a few feet off the ground. The leaves were unravelled to find several larvae, with signs of feeding, i.e., frass. The larvae were clearly not Olive Crescent, but were retained in the hope of rearing them through. These were overwintered in a garden shed within a clear plastic container, its contents lightly sprayed with a mist of water from time to time.